

APPEAL NO. 041909  
FILED SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

This appeal arises pursuant to the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, TEX. LAB. CODE ANN. § 401.001 *et seq.* (1989 Act). A contested case hearing was held on July 12, 2004. The hearing officer determined that the appellant (claimant herein) did not sustain a compensable injury on \_\_\_\_\_, and consequently had no disability. The claimant files an appeal in which he contends the decision of the hearing officer was contrary to the evidence. The respondent (carrier herein) replies that the hearing officer's decision should be affirmed.

DECISION

Finding sufficient evidence to support the decision of the hearing officer and no reversible error in the record, we affirm the decision and order of the hearing officer.

The question of whether an injury occurred is one of fact. Texas Workers' Compensation Commission Appeal No. 93854, decided November 9, 1993; Texas Workers' Compensation Commission Appeal No. 93449, decided July 21, 1993. Section 410.165(a) provides that the hearing officer, as finder of fact, is the sole judge of the relevance and materiality of the evidence as well as of the weight and credibility that is to be given to the evidence. It was for the hearing officer, as trier of fact, to resolve the inconsistencies and conflicts in the evidence. Garza v. Commercial Insurance Company of Newark, New Jersey, 508 S.W.2d 701, 702 (Tex. Civ. App.-Amarillo 1974, no writ). This is equally true regarding medical evidence. Texas Employers Insurance Association v. Campos, 666 S.W.2d 286, 290 (Tex. App.-Houston [14th Dist.] 1984, no writ). The trier of fact may believe all, part, or none of the testimony of any witness. Taylor v. Lewis, 553 S.W.2d 153, 161 (Tex. Civ. App.-Amarillo 1977, writ ref'd n.r.e.); Aetna Insurance Co. v. English, 204 S.W.2d 850 (Tex. Civ. App.-Fort Worth 1947, no writ). An appeals-level body is not a fact finder and does not normally pass upon the credibility of witnesses or substitute its own judgment for that of the trier of fact, even if the evidence would support a different result. National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania v. Soto, 819 S.W.2d 619, 620 (Tex. App.-El Paso 1991, writ denied). When reviewing a hearing officer's decision for factual sufficiency of the evidence we should reverse such decision only if it is so contrary to the overwhelming weight of the evidence as to be clearly wrong and unjust. Cain v. Bain, 709 S.W.2d 175, 176 (Tex. 1986); Pool v. Ford Motor Co., 715 S.W.2d 629, 635 (Tex. 1986). In light of the conflicting evidence concerning injury in the record, and applying this standard, we cannot say the hearing officer erred as a matter of law in finding no injury.

Finally, with no compensable injury found, there is no loss upon which to find disability. By definition disability depends upon a compensable injury. See Section 401.011(16).

We affirm the decision and order of the hearing officer.

The true corporate name of the insurance carrier is **STATE FARM FIRE AND CASUALTY COMPANY** and the name and address of its registered agent for service of process is

**MR. JERRY B. JENSEN  
8900 AMBERGLEN BOULEVARD  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78729-1110.**

---

Gary L. Kilgore  
Appeals Judge

CONCUR:

---

Robert E. Lang  
Appeals Panel  
Manager/Judge

---

Veronica L. Ruberto  
Appeals Judge